

IN THE CLAIMS

1-58 (Canceled).

59. (New) A method of operating a wireless communication device, the method comprising:

receiving a message entity at the wireless communication device;

automatically detecting a contact identifier in the message entity;

automatically identifying a class of contact identifier to which the contact identifier belongs, from a plurality of predetermined classes of contact identifiers; and

outputting descriptive information relating to the contact identifier on an output component of the wireless communication device.

60. (New) A method of operating a wireless communication device, the method comprising performing the method recited in claim 59 for each of a plurality of contact identifiers in the message entity.

61. (New) A method as recited in claim 59, wherein each of the plurality of predetermined classes of contact identifiers represents a different mode of communication.

62. (New) A method as recited in claim 61, wherein the mode of communication is from the group consisting of electronic mail services, facsimile services, short message services, paging services, file retrieval services and phone services.

63. (New) A method as recited in claim 59, further comprising enabling a user of the wireless communication device to initiate a task relating to the contact identifier, in response to said outputting descriptive information relating to the contact identifier.

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64. (New) A method as recited in claim 63, wherein said enabling a user of the wireless communication device to initiate a task relating to the contact identifier comprises provisioning a user interface of the wireless communication device according to the identified class of contact identifier.

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65. (New) A method as recited in claim 63, wherein the task comprises sending a response to the message entity to a destination specified by the contact identifier.

66. (New) A method as recited in claim 63, wherein the task comprises retrieving a contact record containing the contact identifier.

67. (New) A method as recited in claim 63, wherein the task relating to the contact identifier establishes a communication session with a remote gateway.

68. (New) A method as recited in claim 63, wherein the task relating to the contact identifier automatically inserts an identified contact identifier into a field of a database record.

69. (New) A method as recited in claim 63, further comprising:  
identifying a resource containing the contact identifier; and

retrieving the identified resource.

70. (New) A method of operating a wireless communication device, the method comprising performing the method recited in claim 63 for each of a plurality of contact identifiers in the message entity.

71. (New) A method as recited in claim 59, wherein the contact identifier is a field entry in a stored file.

72. (New) A method as recited in claim 71, wherein the stored file is from the group consisting of an address book, a calendar and a contact list.

73. (New) A method as recited in claim 71, wherein the stored file is a database stored on a remote server device.

74. (New) A method as recited in claim 73, wherein the database stored on the remote server device is a public commercial database.

75. (New) A method as recited in claim 59, wherein the plurality of predetermined classes is from the group consisting of electronic mail contact identifiers, Uniform Resource Indicators (URIs), phone number contact identifiers, facsimile number contact identifiers, pager number contact identifiers, short message service contact identifiers, and user specified contact identifiers.

76. (New) A method as recited in claim 59, wherein the wireless communication device is from the group consisting of a mobile phone, a personal digital assistant and a two-way pager.

77. (New) A machine readable medium having stored therein instructions which, when executed by a wireless communication device, causes the wireless communication device to perform a process comprising:

receiving a message entity at the wireless communication device;

automatically detecting a contact identifier in the message entity;

automatically identifying a class of contact identifier to which the contact identifier belongs, from a plurality of predetermined classes of contact identifiers;

outputting descriptive information relating to the contact identifier on an output component of the wireless communication device.

78. (New) A machine readable medium having stored therein instructions which, when executed by a wireless communication device, causes the wireless communication device to perform the method recited in claim 77 for each of a plurality of contact identifiers in the message entity.

79. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 77, wherein each of the plurality of predetermined classes of contact identifiers represents a different mode of communication.

80. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 79, wherein the mode of communication is from the group consisting of electronic mail services, facsimile services, short message services, paging services, file retrieval services and phone services.

81. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 77, further comprising instructions to enable a user of the wireless communication device to initiate a task relating to the contact identifier, in response to said instructions to output descriptive information relating to the contact identifier.

82. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 81, wherein said instructions to enable a user of the wireless communication device to initiate a task relating to the contact identifier further comprises instructions to provision a user interface of the wireless communication device according to the identified class of contact identifier.

83. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 81, wherein said instructions to enable a user of the wireless communication device to initiate a task relating to the contact identifier further comprises sending a response to the message entity to a destination specified by the contact identifier.

84. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 81, wherein said instructions to enable a user of the wireless communication device to initiate a task relating to the contact identifier further comprises retrieving a contact record containing the contact identifier.

85. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 81, wherein said instructions to enable a user of the wireless communication device to initiate a task relating to the contact identifier further comprises establishing a communication session with a remote gateway.

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86. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 81, wherein said instructions to enable a user of the wireless communication device to initiate a task relating to the contact identifier further comprises automatically inserts the identified contact identifier into a field of a database record.

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87. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 81, further comprising:  
instructions to identify a resource containing the contact identifier; and  
instructions to retrieve the identified resource.

88. (New) A machine readable medium having stored therein instructions which, when executed by a wireless communication device, causes the wireless communication device to perform the method recited in claim 81 for each of a plurality of contact identifiers in the message entity.

89. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 77, wherein the contact identifier is a field entry in a stored file.

90. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 89, wherein the stored file is selected from a group consisting of an address book, a calendar and a contact list.

91. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 89, wherein the stored file is a database stored on a remote server device.

92. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 91, wherein the database stored on the remote server device is a public commercial database.

93. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 77, wherein the plurality of predetermined classes is selected from a group consisting of electronic mail contact identifiers, Uniform Resource Indicators (URIs), phone number contact identifiers, facsimile number contact identifiers, pager number contact identifiers, short message service contact identifiers, and user specified contact identifiers.

94. (New) A machine readable medium as recited in claim 77, wherein the wireless communication device is selected from a group consisting of a mobile phone, a personal digital assistant, and a two-way pager.

95. (New) A machine readable medium as described in claim 77, wherein the instructions to output descriptive information relating to the contact identifier on an output component of the wireless communication includes displaying a symbolic indicator.

96. (New) A machine readable medium as described in claim 95, wherein the symbolic indicator is an icon.

97. (New) A machine readable medium as described in claim 77, wherein the instructions to output descriptive information relating to the contact identifier on an output component of the wireless communication device includes displaying a softkey.

98. (New) A wireless communication device comprising:

a storage device to store a message entity;

a memory to store program code for a processor; and

a processor coupled to the storage device and the memory, wherein the processor

operates to execute the program code stored in the memory to receive a message entity at

the wireless communication device, to automatically detect a contact identifier in the message

entity, to automatically identify a class of contact identifier to which the string entity belongs

from a plurality of predetermined classes of contact identifiers, and to output descriptive

information relating to the contact identifier on an output component of the wireless

communication device.

99. (New) A wireless communication device as recited in claim 98, wherein the processor operates to execute the program code stored in the memory for each of a plurality of contact identifiers in the message entity.

100. (New) A wireless communication device as recited in claim 98, wherein the wireless communication device operates to execute the program code stored in the memory to provide at least one mode of communication.



101. (New) A wireless communication device as recited in claim 100, wherein the mode of communication is selected from a group consisting of telephone services, electronic mail services, facsimile services, short message services, paging services, file retrieval services and phone services.

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102. (New) A wireless communication device as recited in claim 98, further comprising operating to execute the program code stored in the memory to enable a user of the wireless communication device to initiate a task relating to the contact identifier, in response to said outputting descriptive information relating to the contact identifier.

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103. (New) A wireless communication device as recited in claim 98, wherein the contact identifier is a field entry in a stored file.

104. (New) A wireless communication device as recited in claim 103, wherein the stored file is selected from a group consisting of an address book, a calendar and a contact list.

105. (New) A wireless communication device as recited in claim 103, wherein the stored file is a database stored on a remote server device.

106. (New) A wireless communication device as recited in claim 98, wherein the plurality of predetermined classes is from the group consisting of electronic mail contact identifiers, Uniform Resource Indicators (URIs), phone number contact identifiers, facsimile number contact

identifiers, pager number contact identifiers, short message service contact identifiers, and user specified contact identifiers.

107. (New) A wireless communication device recited in claim 98, wherein the wireless communication device is from the group consisting of a mobile phone, a personal digital assistant and a two-way pager.

108. (New) A wireless communication device recited in claim 98, wherein the output component of the wireless communication device is a display.

109. (New) A wireless communication device recited in claim 108, wherein the display is capable of displaying color.

110. (New) A wireless communication device recited in claim 98, wherein the output component of the wireless communication device is an indicator.

111. (New) A wireless communication device recited in claim 98, wherein the output component of the wireless communication device provides an audible signal.